



**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q80405

Kozo NOGI, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/798,346

Group Art Unit: 1711

Confirmation No.: 5598

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: March 12, 2004

For: SURFACE CROSSLINKING TREATMENT METHOD OF WATER-ABSORBING  
RESIN POWDER

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

Please note that U.S. Patent 6,620,889B1 corresponds to CN 1342180A.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Appln. No.: 10/798,346

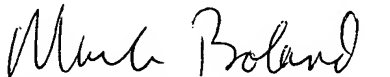
on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of at least that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: January 13, 2006

Substitute for Form 1449 A &amp; B/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

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|------------------------|------------------|
| Application Number     | 10/798,346       |
| Confirmation Number    | 5598             |
| Filing Date            | March 12, 2004   |
| First Named Inventor   | Kozo NOGI        |
| Art Unit               | 1711             |
| Examiner Name          | Not Yet Assigned |
| Attorney Docket Number | Q80405           |

Sheet 1 of 1

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number |                                      | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
|                       |                          | Number          | Kind Code <sup>2</sup><br>(if known) |                                |   |
|                       |                          | US 6,620,889    | B1                                   | 09/16/2003                     | Mertens et al.                                  |
|                       |                          | US              |                                      |                                |   |
|                       |                          | US              |                                      |                                |   |
|                       |                          | US              |                                      |                                |   |
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|                       |                          | US              |                                      |                                |   |
|                       |                          | US              |                                      |                                |   |
|                       |                          | US              |                                      |                                |   |

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document      |                     |                                      | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Translation <sup>6</sup> |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
|                       |                          | Country<br>Code <sup>3</sup> | Number <sup>4</sup> | Kind Code <sup>5</sup><br>(if known) |                                |  |                          |
|                       |                          | CN                           | 1342180             | A                                    | 03/27/2002                     |  | No                       |
|                       |                          |                              |                     |                                      |                                |  |                          |
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|                       |                          |                              |                     |                                      |                                |  |                          |

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published. | Translation <sup>6</sup>       |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
|                       |                          | Chinese Office Action dated November 11, 2005  | With<br>English<br>translation |
|                       |                          |  |                                |
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|                       |                          |  |                                |

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.